

REMARKS

Reconsideration of dissecting into groups, a number of claims all drawn to a method of treating or detecting cancer, is respectfully requested. The basis for such restriction appears to reside in parsing particular methods selected to modulate the expression or resultant thereof of the BCP-1 protein-encoding gene. The invention, however, resides in the discovery that it is the overexpression of this gene that is characteristic of the targeted cancer. Whether one ameliorates this effect by inhibiting the resultant protein with an antibody, creating the inhibiting antibody through an *in situ* expression of a coding sequence therefor, lowering the level of BPC protein by administering an antisense compound, inhibiting the processing or secretion of the BPC-1 or otherwise interfering with the BPC-1 protein is beside the focus of the invention which is the involvement of the expression of the BCP-1 gene in cancer development. Since it is this focus that constitutes the invention, it is respectfully submitted that the above suggested claims are directed to a single invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket No. 511582001810.

Respectfully submitted,

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